MR. SPEAKER :—" That question was put by Sri V. R. Nagarajan and answered."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" The Demand relating to District Administration is coming up before the House on 7th March 1955. It will enable the Members to make useful suggestions if a summary of the recommendations of the Committee is circulated to the Members before that date. May I request the Hon. Minister to consider this suggestion? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Certainly I shall consider that suggestion."

Commonwealth Trust, Limited, Kozhikode.

* 1026 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any recommendation from the Labour Officer, Kozhikode, for referring the dispute between the workers and the management of the Handloom Section of the Commonwealth Trust, Limited, Kozhikode, for adjudication regarding the retrenchment of 144 workers in September 1954, etc.; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The conciliation and confidential reports of the Labour Officer in the matter were received.

" (*b*) The Government found that there was no case for adjudication and informed the parties concerned accordingly."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether the Labour Officer recommended the reference of this dispute to adjudication and what considerations made the Government turn down the request of the workers for referring the dispute to adjudication? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Labour Officer pointed out in his report to the Government that the workers were divided between two unions, one affiliated to the Communist Party and the other to the Indian National Trade Union Congress. He pointed out that the management discussed the question of retrenchment of 118 people with these two unions. The other 26 people were to be superannuated. Both the unions agreed with the management on the question of retrenchment and came to a settlement. The Labour Officer specifically recommended to the Government and the Commissioner of Labour agreed with him that there was no case for adjudication because the Labour Unions sought to go against the very settlement to which they agreed."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" When there is agreement 9 a.m. between the management and the workers and the management commit any breach of the agreement, the Government are taking

action against them. I wish to know if there is any provision in the Act for the Government to take action against the workers if they commit a breach of the agreement? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' Whether it is the management or the workers, the Government can take action against them if they contravene any provision of the law or if they fail to carry out any award of the Tribunal. Here it is a settlement between the management and the workers and the Government cannot take action in the matter. It is only after the workers agree to a settlement and then go back upon it that the question of taking action arises.''

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—'' மேட்டூர் இண்டஸ்டிரீஸ் தொழிலாளர்கள் போனஸ் பெற்றுக்கொள்வதற்கு தயாராய் இருக்கும்போது சர்க்கார் அவ்விஷயத்தை அட்ஜுடிகேஷனுக்கு விட்டது. இந்த விஷயத்தில் ஒரு யூனியனுக்கு ஒத்துக்கொண்டு மற்றொரு யூனியனுக்கு ஒத்துக் கொள்ளாததின் காரணம் என்ன ? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' மேட்டூர் இண்டஸ்டிரீஸ் தொழிலாளர்கள் போனசை ஒத்துக்கொண்ட போதிலும் சர்க்கார் அவ்விஷயத்தை அட்ஜுடிகேஷனுக்கு விட்டார்கள் என்பது முற்றிலும் தவறு. அவர்கள் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. அவர்கள் ஐந்து மாத போனஸ் கேட்டார்கள். அதற்கு மானேஜ்மெண்டு இணங்கவில்லை. அதற்கப்புறம்தான் அது அட்ஜுடிகேஷனுக்கு விடப்பட்டது. ''

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—'' Regarding this dispute, there was a temporary agreement between the workers and the management but the management violated it. They did not take even one single worker back and did not even give retrenchment benefit according to the Industrial Disputes Act. Therefore, may I request the Hon. Minister to see that the workers get all the retrenchment benefits including the gratuity which are legally due to them? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' I do not see, from the information that I have with me, that the management has failed to implement any of the terms of the settlement. However, I would suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question.''

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—'' Sir, the Hon. Minister while answering a question referred to two unions. I wish to know whether both of them are registered unions and if so, will the Government desist from the policy of giving recognition to more than one union in one industry? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' I am afraid under the existing law, the Government cannot desist—however much they desire—from giving recognition to more than one union in a particular industry. Of course it has been brought to my notice how the workers are coerced to subscribe to more than one union but still under the existing law the Government cannot help it.''